

What is claimed is:

1. A control device for controlling an electronic device, comprising:

connecting means for connecting an external memory,

5 non-volatile storage memory means having a memory region with a portion where data can be electrically rewritten, said memory means having a first memory region for storing control program data for operating the electronic device, a second memory region for storing connection judgment program data to  
10 determine whether the external memory means is connected to the connecting means, and a third memory region for storing writing program data to rewrite the control program data stored in the first memory region, and

control means electrically connected to the connecting  
15 means and memory means for executing a control program to control an operation of the electronic device, said control means executing the connection judgment program data, and when it is determined that the external memory medium is connected to the control device, the control means executing the writing  
20 program data so that at least a portion of the control program data stored in the first memory region of the memory means is rewritten based on external memory medium data stored in the external memory medium.

25 2. A control device according to claim 1, wherein said control means executes the writing program when data stored in the external memory medium at a predetermined address thereof is read through executing the connection judgment program and the data matches predetermined data stored in the memory means.

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3. A control device according to claim 1, wherein said control means executes operation control program based on the operation control program data stored in the first memory region when data stored in the external memory medium at a predetermined address thereof is read through executing the connection judgment program and the data does not match predetermined data stored in the memory means.

4. A control device according to claim 1, wherein said control means executes the connection judgment program when the control device is turned on.

5. A control device according to claim 1, wherein said memory means further includes a fourth memory region for storing compatibility judgment program data for determining whether the external memory medium data stored in the external memory means is compatible and correct, said control means executing the writing program so that at least a portion of the control program data stored in the first memory region in the memory means is rewritten based on the external memory medium data stored in the external memory medium when it is determined that the external memory medium is connected to the control device through executing the connection judgment program and that the external memory medium data stored in the external memory medium is correct through executing the compatibility judgment program.

6. A control device according to claim 5, wherein said control means outputs an error signal when it is determined that the external memory medium data stored in the external memory medium

is incorrect through executing the compatibility judgment program.

7. A control device for controlling an operation of an  
5 electronic device, comprising:

non-volatile storage memory means capable of electrically  
rewriting data stored therein,

connecting means for connecting an external memory medium  
to the storage means,

10 connection judgment means for determining whether the  
external memory medium is connected to the memory means with the  
connection means, and

writing means for reading external memory medium data  
stored in the external memory medium when it is determined that  
15 the external memory medium is connected to the memory means  
through executing a connection judgment program, said writing  
means rewriting at least a portion of operation control program  
data stored in the memory means based on the external memory  
medium data read out.

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8. A control device according to claim 7, further comprising  
first judging means for determining whether the writing means  
rewrites the data stored in the memory means correctly, and  
second judging means for determining whether the writing means  
25 completes writing to the memory means normally.

9. A control device according to claim 8, wherein said memory  
means comprises a first memory region for storing program data,  
and a second memory region for storing first check data for  
30 determining whether the writing means rewrites the data stored

in the memory means correctly and for storing second check data for determining whether the writing means completes writing to the memory means normally.

5 10. A control device according to claim 9, wherein said writing means erases the program data stored in the first memory region after erasing the first check data and the second check data stored in the second memory region, and rewrites the first check data and the second check data to the second memory region in  
10 the memory means according to data stored in the external memory medium after writing new program data stored in the external memory medium to the first memory region in the memory means.

11. A control device according to claim 8, wherein said first  
15 judging means determines whether the writing means rewrites data correctly after the second judging means determines that the writing means completes writing to the memory means normally.

12. A control device according to claim 8, further comprising  
20 control means for outputting an error signal when at least one of the first judging means and the second judging means determines that a result is abnormal, and for controlling the electronic device based on the data rewritten by the writing means when the first judging means and the second judging means  
25 determine that the result is normal.